

# Spiritual Warfare

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### Dedication

This book is dedicated to God and to Christians who are going through challenges of Satan.

## INTRODUCTION

As Christians, we are faced with different challenges on daily basis. Obviously, it is not a perfect world that we live in. Some of the challenges that we face are spiritual which are reflecting in our realities. Although, it is not only Christians who are faced with challenges in life but this book is good for Christians because of the Holy Bible verses.

The reason for the harsh realities in every corner of the earth is because Satan (once upon a time a good angel, but now full of evil) is the Prince of this earth. Satan has one goal which is to capture many souls to be destroyed with him in the lake of fire. Satan is an aggressive enemy of mankind who is overseeing the killing of many innocent people including children around the world. Sometimes, Lucifer is causing deadly sickness and disease, famine and economic depression among others. You can give this book or the e-book to non-Christian friends because Satan attacks everyone born to this world and want to ensure that they do not come to the knowledge of light till they depart from this world. Leaving this world without the knowledge of light may lead the soul into eternal darkness. A good illustration is that without sun, moon and electricity, the world is a dark place. However, it is not the darkness that we see now but thick darkness which shall lead into eventual destruction of one's soul.

Whatever tribulations that human beings are faced with today cannot be compared to the torment or joy to come, but choose joy and not torment. This book encourages you to choose and walk on the path of light. This book also enlightens the reader on spiritual warfare, how humans are trapped in the warfare and how to effectively overcome in spiritual warfare using the right spiritual weapons. This book concludes that, although, there are battles but the war is whether a person earn eternal life with God (which is victory) or ends in destruction with Satan (which is considered a lost war).

## Chapters

- Chapter 1 Spiritual warfare
- Chapter 2 Satan as the Head Enemy
- Chapter 3 Winning the Battles and the War
- Chapter 4 Weapons for Spiritual Warfare
- Chapter 5 Deliverance
- Chapter 6 Kingdom War and Battle for the Soul

## Chapter 1

### Spiritual warfare

Warfare has been described as the process of military struggle between two nations or group of nations. It is also an armed conflict between two massed enemies, armies or the like.

To understand spiritual warfare, you must first believe the concept of evil forces against good. Christians do engage in spiritual battle every day and the grand war is whether the Christian earn an eternal life or not. Spiritual warfare is not fought in the physical realm and physical weapons are not used.

The world we live in is spiritual because it was formed by God who is Spirit. (Genesis 1:1). It is also important to mention that spirits live together in this world with humans. The proof that spirits live in this world is in the book of Revelation 12:9 which mention that Satan the devil (spirit) and his fallen angels (spirits) has been hauled to the earth. Also, the book of Revelation 5:6 proves that the lamb carries the presence of the seven Spirits of God to all the earth. However, conventional human eyes cannot see these spirits and it does not mean that the spirits cease to exist on earth.

The challenge on earth now is that the spirits present are two rival powers with previous war history. Their war history is in Revelation 12:7 and since after the war in Heaven, these spiritual armed forces meet on earth again to continue their struggle until the last day which is biblically referred to as the day of the Lord or judgement day.

#### **How are humans trapped in their spiritual warfare?**

This book will mention four reasons that trap humans in spiritual warfare

1. Because God is interested in mankind as in Psalms 8:4, Satan also show interest in mankind which leads to conflict of interests.
2. Since the fall of man in the Garden of Eden, God has planned to bring man back to restoration and Satan does not want this to be successful.
3. God has prepared Paradise for mankind for eternity and Satan knowing this is all out to fight this plan. Satan, who has made himself a rival power to God, has determined to thwart God's plan for mankind and ensure that humans should not enter into the Paradise of God.
4. The fourth reason humans are involved in spiritual warfare is that among the inhabitants of Heaven and earth, only God is to be worshipped. Read Nehemiah 9:6. Satan on the other hand demands that human should worship him directly or indirectly through idolatry

Since Satan was hauled into the earth, he has seized the government of this world from the control on humans. In other words, Satan is the de-facto ruler of this world. John 14:30. The reality is the challenges people face which are way beyond their control and decaying governments in most countries of the world. However, the mission of Jesus on earth is to destroy the work and stronghold of Satan as in 1John 3:8. This same Jesus' mission on earth reinforced the spiritual warfare on earth due to the extreme enmity between Jesus and Satan. Needful to say that after Jesus' mission on earth, Matthew 28:18 says all the authority in Heaven and on earth has been given to him, including the spiritual forces. Mankind has been employed to be soldiers of Jesus Christ to subdue satanic reign on earth. Mankind involvement in spiritual warfare should be strictly spiritual without any physical assault. Read Ephesians 6:12. Spiritual warfare is real and it is ongoing until the end of days.

#### Questions

1. Mention 3 reasons why humans are trapped in spiritual warfare
2. Prove it that spirits are on earth with humans

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## **Church is beyond a place of worship, it is a battle field**

Jesus himself is the founder of the Church. His church replaced the old Temple. In Matthew 27:51, the veil of the old temple was rent in twain. Recall that before the verse Matthew 27:51, only the Priest had access to God's presence, especially, in the inner room. Today in the church of Christ through grace, everyone have access directly to God.

As much as the church of Christ is to worship God, it is also a place where Jesus recruits and empowers his human soldiers. These soldiers of Jesus Christ regularly engage in spiritual warfare using varieties of weapons available. Prayer is one of the age-long weapons most widely used in spiritual warfare. Interestingly, it is not only Christians who pray because almost all the religions in the world offer prayers to their respective gods or the Almighty God.

Churches of Christ are supposed to be hotspot of spiritual warfare. A formidable battle ground where people take their stand against the oppression of Satan and his evil forces as the evil forces continue to wage war against the church. Christians need to be aware that Satan wants to destroy them along with the church. Jesus knew this which is why He said the gates of Hades will not prevail against the church in Matthew 16:18. It is noteworthy in Matthew 16:18 that Jesus made claim of the church by saying "my church". According to Colossians 1:18; Jesus is the head of the church and Christians are the body of the church. Satan enmity with Jesus is the reason for the continuous spiritual warfare against the church. However, the war has been won and Jesus earn the victory in John 19:30 when He said, it is finished. He also confirms his victory in John 16:33 and Matthew 28:18.

Therefore, the spiritual warfare of Christians today is a known victory but Satan is not a slacker as he still continues to intensify his offensive attacks on Christians on all fronts to subdue them under his oppression. It is left for the Christian to use spiritual weapons to face Satan and his angels and they will flee. Read James 4:7. Any circumstance that reduces the joy of life in you might be a spiritual attack that needs to be rebuffed.

Spiritual warfare is real. Jesus fought this war as a leader; therefore, as follower, one must expect to face the challenges of life. Jesus, when in agony prayed fervently such that his sweat was like drops of blood in Luke 22:44. That you do not believe in spiritual realm or spiritual warfare does not mean that it does not exist. In fact, your ignorance will give Satan chance to confuse and frustrate you and quench the peace that God has promised you. Believe in spiritual realm and warfare so that you can prepare your defense against these unseen forces. Remember also that attack is the best form of defense. You must regularly engage in some kind of fire-for-fire prayers.

Your church should be involved in fervent prayers and launching of various attacks on the enemy's camp. Such roaring prayer is not just spiritual exercise, it is self-deliverance from satanic oppressions and attacking the enemy's camp is your defense. Know that Satan is the head enemy. If you do not destroy the evil forces against your life, they will surely destroy you. Satan the master of the evil forces is a roaring lion looking for whom to devour in 1Peter 5:8. The evil forces in the spiritual realm are destroyers seeking prey everywhere in all parts of the world. You cannot afford to be a victim of the evil forces. Awake in the spiritual realm. Be spiritually conscious to rebuff spiritual attacks on your job, family, finances, business, health, peace of mind, joy of life, etc.

#### Questions

1. What are the dangers of sluggish prayers if Jesus himself prayed hard in Luke 22:44?
2. Who owns the church?

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Mankind is not totally blind to spiritual realm. There are some people with spiritual gifts to see the spiritual beings, hear them and talk to them. A good example is a Prophet. Prophet usually has a gift to communicate in the spiritual realm. Anyone who believes in the Prophet must also believe in the spiritual realm and spiritual warfare. Another example or proof of spiritual warfare is in the book of 2Kings 6:11-17. From the previous scripture, you will understand the formidable spiritual defense around the Christians who believe in Jesus and Yahweh (YHWH) God. The spiritual defense is what Psalms 91:11 is talking about.

### **Is spiritual warfare for Christians alone?**

Spiritual warfare is not for Christians alone. Spiritual warfare is among spiritual beings but in one way or the other humans, whether Christians or not, are trapped in spiritual warfare. The ultimate aim of Satan for mankind is to lead human into destruction along with himself. Therefore, Satan the devil, attacks every human whether they are Christians or not. The non-Christians usually resolve to appease the spirits with sacrifices in order to avert their terrible conditions. Both Christians and non-Christians are confronted with harsh realities which results from ongoing spiritual warfare between good and evil. People engage in many spiritual activities to seek relief from their difficult realities. They involve in activities like horoscope, fortune telling, enchantments, idolatry and wizardry among others which are biblically sinful. You may read Leviticus 19:26-31 if you do not believe that horoscope or time observing is a sin.

Having discussed the reality of spiritual warfare, it is important to mention that the warfare is intense for the Disciples of Christ Jesus in order to dissuade them from following Jesus and keeping the statutes of God. There will be a lot of worldly pressure or environmental influences to make the Christian backslide. Satan the enemy will use people and situations to stab Christians hard and lure them to sin. As much as a prayer-less Christian is a powerless Christian, so also a sinful Christian is a defeated Christian. Spiritual warfare is not only in the place of prayer, it is also a struggle of what choices we make in our lives between good and evil. Tempting situations, events and people are satanic tools to befall the Christian.

Sin is bad for a Christian engaging in spiritual warfare. Another formidable weapon for spiritual warfare is holiness. A Christian should continuously choose **well (good)** above **evil**. As a Christian, do not give in to the sin or idolatry which has been said that will solve your problems; take your stand. Endure in holiness and pray fervently as Jesus did in gethsemane. As long as there are human beings on earth, challenges facing them will continue because the ruler of this current system of things on earth is Satan, but his time is limited. Whatever challenges that you are facing, do not compromise your Christian principles, endure a little longer and use necessary spiritual weapons; and God shall see you through the challenges.

Finally, spiritual warfare is real and mankind is trapped in this war. To be victorious, mankind need to build very close relationship with God through Jesus who conquered Satan. Use the necessary spiritual weapons to engage the evil forces against your life in order to live a fulfilled life on earth. Let's ask this question; what is spiritual warfare? It is an ongoing war between spiritual beings. It is happening in the spiritual realm. It is an armed struggle between good and evil. It is a catastrophic war between the kingdom of light and kingdom of darkness. It started in Heaven and continued on earth. Mankind is trapped in spiritual warfare and needs formidable weapons to engage the enemy and enjoy their life on earth. The end of the ongoing spiritual warfare is the last day which is also called the day of the Lord or judgement day.

#### Questions

1. Where did spiritual warfare started from?
2. Is spiritual warfare for Christians alone?

## Chapter 2

### Satan as the head enemy

Satan is real. He was once a holy person enjoying the glory of Heavenly places. He was once a favorite of God with his musical gifts. Satan or Lucifer is a very attractive person full of glory to behold. God formed him to be a perfect creature with special abilities and powers. Read Ezekiel 28:13-19. The fall of Satan is from his pride and his ambition to become the Almighty God. Satan did not fall from the glory of Heaven alone, he convinced some angels who also fell with him. Satan and these fallen hosts of angels are now the principalities and powers of darkness in the world of mankind today. The book of Isaiah 14:12-17 clearly talks about Satan's ambition which led to his fall and his judgement.

Since the fall of Satan, he has become an abject enemy of God, Jesus, the saints and entire human race. The saints could be referred to as human beings saved by the blood of Jesus Christ. Satan the enemy, knowing the mission of Jesus Christ on earth used King Herod to hunt for his life at birth. Read Matthew 2:16. Since the birth of Jesus, Satan the enemy has been waging war against him in order to thwart his ministry on earth. Satan even used nature to attack Jesus in Mark 4:35-41. The peak of Satan's war with Jesus was the temptation in the wilderness. Read Matthew 4:1-11. Satan in his deep knowledge of the scripture appeared to tempt Jesus from the scripture. Thank God for the anointing of Jesus, Satan might have defeated him in the wilderness. Remember that in the same manner, Satan appeared to Eve and her man in the Garden of Eden to tempt them and he defeated them. Therefore, glory to God for the anointing of Jesus Christ to overcome the temptation of Satan in the wilderness.

Satan finally used the Jewish hierarchy to seriously hunt Jesus until they killed him through crucifixion.

Satan has formed a formidable kingdom of darkness to wage war against evangelism of the gospel, the church and human race. Satan is real and his angels are real. Satan was able to scoop one-third of the angels in Heaven in a fierce fight. Read Revelation 12:3-4. These formidable kingdoms of darkness or evil forces have Satan as their head and are sworn to engage the saints in fierce spiritual warfare. Revelation 12:17 is talking about the exclusive anger of Satan to destroy those who keep the commandments of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ i.e. the Christians. This is why the Christians and the church must acknowledge that there is ongoing spiritual warfare; a fight against the devil and his cohorts. As long as you bear the testimony of Jesus and keep the commandments of God, you are a potential enemy of Satan.

Remember Satan's wrath in Revelation 12:17, so be ready to engage him in battle because he will try to attack you with difficult realities. He will fire bullets, throw darts and obstacles at you in order to bring you down.

Needful to say that if Satan was able to bring down one-third of powerful angels from Heaven and Satan the enemy was able to befall the first man (despite the fact that Adam was formed directly by God) then, human race need Jesus. Human race need Jesus because he has through the power of God defeated Satan. Do not underestimate this great enemy who seems invincible. Take up spiritual weapons to repel the works of Satan in your life.

#### Questions

1. For what reason did Satan fall from Heaven?
2. What are the similarities between the temptation of Adam and Eve and the temptation of Jesus Christ?

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## **Satan does not want to be destroyed alone**

Satan, knowing that God has already judged him to be destroyed in lake of fire, is working hard to go down with the entire human race. Psalms 8:4 talks about the love of God for human race and Satan is aware of this love. God also invested the blood of Jesus to redeem the souls of mankind and Satan is also aware of it. Satan ultimately wants the sacrifice of Christ to go in vain by converting mankind to satanic ways through many means. Satan the enemy also sends his angels or by himself gather with the children of God. Read Job 2:1-2. This is why there are witches, wizards and familiar spirits present in the church today. The church is always under attack from evil forces and more reason why the church must beef up their spiritual security through defensive and offensive prayers. Every prayer in the church must be in spirit, steady and fire-packed.

Satan is not an easy adversary. He is aggressive and ruthless. He even showed up against the high Priest in Zechariah 3:1-2. The previous verses confirmed that even senior Ministers in churches today are not exempted from satanic attacks. In fact, Satan targets the ministers of God most because the fall of a minister of God can cause many following Christians to fall or backslide. Satan and his forces are very hardworking; working tirelessly in both day and night to discourage people from doing the will of God. Read Revelation 12:10. The Holy Bible also mention in Revelation 12:10 how Satan will test Christians even till death.

The good news is that one can use spiritual weapons to break the bond of evil forces over life, job, family, business, finances, career, etc. In Daniel 10:13, the Holy Bible reiterate the power of relentless prayer. Therefore, as a born again Christian, if there is something you are praying about which you have not received, do not relent; keep on praying. Intensify your fire-packed prayer with fasting or switch to another spiritual weapon because Satan the head enemy might be hindering your prayers.

Christians must also know that their enemy, Satan the devil, is very wise in his ways. He also has the ability to transform from one form to another to fulfil his purpose. This is why Apostle Paul wrote “And no marvel; for Satan, himself is transformed into an angel of light” 2 Corinthians 11:14. Apostle Paul also mention in 2 Corinthians 2:11 that “lest Satan should get an advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices. Ephesians 6:11 also warn Christians against the devious or cunning ways of the devil. The Holy Bible also talks about the depths of Satan in Revelation 2:24.

However, there are seven important values of human race that Satan the head enemy attacks which are discussed below

- 1 Job/Business – God gave Adam a job from the beginning which is to take care of the garden. The Holy Bible also emphasize in James 2:17 that faith without work is dead. Job is a very important part of our lives. Satan attack a lot of people’s jobs and businesses to drag them in suffering or poverty.
- 2 Health – The natural food, fruits and herbs in the Garden of Eden would have ensured that mankind knows no sickness, not even aging. But the reality today is different kinds of sicknesses and diseases. Surely, Satan can cause sickness and disease on people and he is really doing that in our world today.
- 3 Human government – From the beginning, God told man to have dominion over all things on earth and multiply i.e. to govern. But the truth is that since Satan deceived man to fall in the Garden of Eden, Satan has taken the government of this world away from man. And in most places in the world, you will find occult people in positions of control and dominance.
- 4 Family – Satan is on a grand campaign to corrupt marriages in our societies. Infidelity is on the rise. Marital problems, barrenness, divorce and separation is increasing. There is also attack on family finances, moral and spirit of the marriage.
- 5 Nation (Israel) – Israel which is the first nation of God’s inheritance is regularly under threat or attack from neighboring nations. Not only Israel, other nations are rising against nations with threats of nuclear warheads. This is satanic.
- 6 Jesus – Jesus is one of the gifts of God to human race. The spread of the gospel of Jesus Christ is been attacked by Satan the enemy. Christians are finding evangelism very difficult but can easily undertake pyramid marketing schemes.
- 7 Church – As this book mentioned earlier, church is a battle field and spiritual warfare hotspot that is constantly under attack. Such attacks as spiritual attacks, terrorism, finances and numerical depreciation. False churches and corruption of good ones are on the rise.

Satan has been busy in these recent centuries corrupting these seven values of mankind.

#### Questions

1. Why is it that Satan targets mighty ministers of God?
2. List only, the seven values of human race that Satan the enemy is attacking



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Good news is that God is much more powerful than Satan and Jesus Christ also conquered Satan. If you read the book of Job 1:9-12, you will understand that Satan could not come near Job until he was permitted. In verse 10, God's hedge around Job kept Satan away despite Satan's power and his powerful angels. Also, Ezekiel 28:18-19 is talking about how Satan shall be turned into ashes upon the earth in the sight of men. What ridicule! Isaiah 14:16 talks about how God will reduce Satan the enemy to nothing so that people will wonder if this is the man who shake the nations and kingdoms. Good news also is that despite the authority and power of Satan on this earth, Jesus Christ has been given all the authority and power in Heaven and on earth. Matthew 28:18

Satan has turned himself into an enemy of God by attacking the statutes of God. He commits sin or we rather say he is the originator of sin, 1John 3:8. Read Revelation 13:6. The previous verse is not talking only about Satan but people who indulge in blasphemy against God, ministers of God or the church. It is not only the persecution of church or the servant of God that is a sin, but blasphemy against the church and servants of God is a sin.

As we discuss Satan and his cohorts, it is necessary to mention that one of his strongest angels is a whore. This whore has powerful influence on mankind which is why the Holy Bible say **flee**. The scripture encourages one to fight against Satan for example in Luke 10:19, but advices one to flee from this whore. Read 1Corinthians 6:18. If you want to know more about this whore and the judgement, read Revelation chapter 17.

However, you need to cheer up because Jesus Christ has conquered the world satanic government. Satan has no power against God. The Holy Bible records that one angel from Heaven came down to bound him in Revelation 20:1-2 and the Holy Bible did not mention that the angel is Michael or Jesus. So, rest assured that God of Heaven has enough power and army to deal with Satan decisively. God can immediately solve the challenges that Satan attack Christians with but He may allow such challenges to linger a little longer for reasons which could be:

- a. To train you (Like the disciples of Jesus Christ)
- b. To test your love for Him (Like in Abraham's situation)
- c. To prove the devil wrong about you (Like in Job's situation)
- d. Because you remain in sin (Isaiah 59:1-2) or,
- e. Your association (2 Corinthians 6:15-18)

Also know that Satan is cunning and a deceiver who deceive the whole world; the founder of false religion and the master of heresies. Be watchful and pray that you do not lose your battle against Satan. Whether you like it or not, if you are reading this, Satan is your sworn enemy and he plans to destroy you if you do not take your stand against him. Apostle Paul in 2Corinthians 11:3 wrote about the wiles of Satan as he used his wiles to deceive Eve in Genesis 3:1-5. You will need to equip yourself with verses from the Holy Bible, pursue holy life, fast and pray fire-packed prayers to defeat Satan in your life.

Needful to mention that there is going to be final war between Satan (his people and his angels) and the Heavenly host. The Holy Bible says in Revelation 20:7-10 that Satan will deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the final war. This scripture also recorded that the number of satanic angels and human beings are like the sand of seashore. Revelation 20:7-10 is the last spiritual warfare before Satan will be casted into lake of fire.

Brethren, whatever you are going through now cannot be compared to the torment and joy to come. Choose joy and not torment. Endure and pray. Prepare your mind for everlasting life with God. This life is a journey and the journey is full of battles. Face the battle and finish strong. Be a soldier with high rank in Jesus Christ. In this world's spiritual warfare, Satan is the head enemy and he has angels and human beings in his hosts. However, those who are in Christ Jesus are more than conqueror and they shall surely overcome life battles.

#### Questions

- 1 List any 3 reasons why God may allow Satan to trouble a Christian
- 2 Where in the Holy Bible is the last spiritual warfare?

## Chapter 3

### Winning battles and the war

Everyone faces challenge in this life. From financial difficulties to health problems and the degree of tribulations differ. The challenges are pockets of or major challenges that people face and the war is whether the soul earns eternal life with God or not. Satan the enemy wants to ensure that no man make it to eternal life with God and His Christ as Satan continues to battle with, especially God's people.

The first step to winning spiritual and life battles is to acknowledge that Satan is already defeated by Jesus Christ and that God has judged Satan. The Holy Bible says that "these things have I spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world, ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." John 16:33; emphasis on the word **tribulation**. Jesus did not speak in parables but in clear words that we shall be faced with challenges of life. As Christians, we must expect tribulation because Jesus acknowledges it but there is important reason to be cheerful in our battles. The reason is that Jesus has overcome the united evil forces. Christians who exclusively believe that the battles, even the war is already won have a solid battle formation. Then, the battle against such Christian can be likened to a very huge and fearful lion drawn on the wall or on a paper. Such lion is harmless and lifeless.

The next step is to trust completely in God. The book of Luke 1:37 states that "for with God, nothing shall be impossible." Whatever challenges you may be passing through, God is very able to help you end all tribulations. As we discussed earlier that God might allow the tribulation in your life for a few reasons which are

- a. To train you
- b. To test you love for Him
- c. To prove the devil wrong about you
- d. Because you remain in sin, or,
- e. Your association

No matter what you are going through, you must set your trust in God. You must not doubt God's ability to see you through the challenges and give you an expected end. Read Jeremiah 29:11. There are encouraging verses in the book of Matthew 5:1-12. The previous verses also reiterate that Jesus acknowledges the challenges of God's people and the great hope for the overcomers.

The Holy Bible also confirms our spiritual warfare in life and how to overcome it. The Holy Bible states in Ephesians 6:12 that "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood

but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” Therefore, we must first acknowledge that there is spiritual realm and an ongoing invincible war. After, acknowledging that there are spiritual attacks against your livelihood, you must seek God’s help **patiently** through Jesus. To seek God’s help, you must believe that He exists and you must exercise faith in His sovereignty. The Holy Bible makes this clear in Hebrews 11:6 which states that “Without faith it is impossible to please Him (God); for he that cometh to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.”

You must believe in the existence of God and believe Him as the All-powerful or the Almighty God who can take away all your tribulation; whatever you are passing through. But no one can go to God’s presence without following the right path. The right path to God is through Jesus Christ. The Holy Bible confirms this in John 14:6 “Jesus said unto him, I am the way, the truth and the life; no man cometh to the Father but by me.” Once you have good relationship with God through Jesus, your spiritual battles are technically defeated.

#### Questions

- 1 “Be of good cheer; I have overcome the world” where is this statement in the Holy Bible
- 2 Spiritual battles are not physical, use Ephesians 6:12 to explain

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In Ephesians 6 verse 11 and 13, the Holy Bible reiterates that God's people should take the armor of God in order to stand their ground in spiritual warfare. Now armor has been defined as (1) the metal coverings formerly worn to protect the body in battle or (2) a tough metal layer covering a military vehicle or ship to defend from attack. In both definitions, armor is used in physical battle to protect the soldier from attacks.

The armor of God's people is not the physical armor, but **attitude** and **spiritual activities**. The book of Ephesians 6: 14-18 list the whole armor of God which Christians must strictly adhere to in order to keep winning the battles of life. One golden verse in Ephesians chapter 6 is verse 15 which states that "and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace". The verse is talking about evangelism. Evangelism is one of the potent weapons against the kingdom of Satan. Evangelism has two sides – it is defensive as well as offensive. Evangelism is invading the kingdom of Satan to break out souls from his captivity – what an offensive – and thereby reducing the population of the evil ones. Such Evangelist also earns special love of God because such person is working for God in His vineyard by building God's investment of Jesus' blood by gathering souls for Him. God will build a hedge around the Evangelist like He did for Job and Jesus will personally be with the Evangelist as he promised in Matthew 28:20.

The verse 16 of Ephesians chapter 6 is equally important because without faith, no one can please God. Now, verse 16 talks about the shield of faith and fiery darts. The fiery darts can be those arrows of the evil ones. It could be arrows of sickness and disease, arrows of fear, anxiety and depression; arrows of job loss, child loss, broken marriage, barrenness, etc. If you read Psalms 91, it also talks about fiery darts of the evil forces. Psalm 91 also acknowledges that there are arrows or fiery darts for the day time and night time. **A good picture of the fiery darts or arrows is in a movie titled 300 Spartans. In the battle formation of these Spartans, the super skill of how they used their shield is very interesting. At a time, you will see multiple arrows fired into the sky by the enemies and only for these arrows to rain upon the Spartans. Thanks to their shield which stops the arrows from killing them.** You also need a shield against the evil arrows in life and the Holy Bible says in Ephesians 6:16 that your shield is Faith. Exercise doubtless faith in God. Trust God He will not allow you to be tempted beyond your faith. Read 1Corinthians 10:13.

Ephesians 6:17 is talking about helmet of salvation. A lot of Christians in the world today are Christians by religion but are not born again including ministers of God. Except you are born again and genuinely purchased by the blood of Jesus, you do not

have the helmet of salvation. You know the importance the head to your body, the helmet is equally important to guard your head from accident or attack. Salvation is the foundation of your relationship with God. In fact, without salvation, you will lose the war which is for your soul. The Holy Bible says except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God in John 3:3. Your helmet of salvation is a very vital part of your armor. A typical roman soldier is always with his metal helmet on the battle field. Even a responsible bike man uses the helmet on the highway. Therefore, it is reckless for a Christian to live without the helmet of salvation. Going to church or to be called a Christian does not make one a born again; being born again is discussed in John 3:3-7. My golden question for you is have you been baptized?

Next armor is in Ephesians 6:17b which is the sword of the spirit. Yes, there is a sword and God Himself does have a sword. Read Isaiah 34:5. For born again Christians, the sword of the spirit is the word of God. How many verses of the scripture do you have in your memory? Remember that when Satan appeared to tempt Jesus, Jesus did not pray against him. They both used "it has been written" to extract verses from the word of God, the Holy Bible. You need to know what the Holy Bible is saying about your situation. You need the sword of the spirit. Get Christian literatures, Bible in one year, etc. and memorize the verses used in such books. You need to develop yourself more in the word of God because that is your spiritual sword.

The last but not the least of the armor of God is prayer according to Ephesians 6:18.

#### Questions

1. Discuss briefly Ephesians 6:16
2. List any 3 armors of God

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As we have discussed things that will keep you winning spiritual battles, there is need to mention the weapons that Satan uses to win his battles against mankind. The six most widely used weapons of Satan against humanity include fear, anxiety, deception, covetousness, corruption of the mind and obstacles.

**FEAR:** This is a powerful weapon in the hand of Satan as he comes against his prey like a roaring lion. The Holy Bible in 1Peter 5:8 uses roaring lion to describe Satan. Looking at the enormous strength and characteristics of a lion, one will realize that it is an object of fear for its prey. Despite the fact that the Holy Bible describes Satan as a roaring lion, it encourages us not to fear him because God is with us. Read Isaiah 41:10. Satan knows how to intimidate his prey using higher authority at work, home or society to make the person succumb to sin in order to escape the threat. We must know that Satan is a harmless lion for God's people if they keep their trust in God as the Almighty. Needful to mention that people who are fearful will have their place in lake of fire. Read Revelation 21:8

**ANXIETY:** Do not worry about anything at all if you have God on your side. The Holy Bible says do not be anxious about anything in Philipppians 4:6; emphasis on **anything**. The verse continues to state that "but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your request be made known to God." What are you anxious about? Could it be gainful employment, feeding, clothing, housing, car, etc.? Could it also be the fear of the future? Why do you worry when you are supposed to pray about it? Jesus is clear about the issue of anxiety in the book of Matthew 6:25-34. Verse 32 says "for your Heavenly father knows that ye have need of all these things." Why then do you worry so much? Anxiety, worry and depression are weapons of Satan which you must be aware of. Instead of worry, pray or praise God.

**DECEPTION or HALF-TRUTH:** The Holy Bible in the book of Revelation 12:9 refers to Satan as a deceiver of the whole world. Even before the book of Revelation, Satan has been a deceiver since the beginning of things. The Holy Bible reveals in Genesis chapter 3 how Satan appeared to deceive the woman, Eve. Deception is one of the commonest weapons of Satan. The Holy Bible further confirms Satan as a liar in John 8:44. Satan is a very con being and the father of con men and liars. Satan actually has nothing good to offer because his nature since his fall is evil. Be vigilant to the wiles of Satan. Do not be deceived into his luring ways.

**COVETOUSNESS:** The fall of man started when Eve covet the forbidden fruit in Genesis chapter 3:6. Eve beheld the fruit and it was good for her eyes and she said also that it is good for food. Meanwhile, do not be in hurry to blame Eve as most people are guilty of covetousness in today's world. People covet other people's spouse, house, car, dress, etc. They easily fall prey into the net of Satan out of covetousness. Remember that Satan is con and a deceiver who will give people a little of what they want and take more from them. Satan will ultimately take their soul from them. Put your sense organs under the control of the Holy Spirit, especially your eyes. Pray to God for help if you are covetous because it is a weapon of Satan.

**MIND CORRUPTION:** In, especially, 21st century and emergence of internet, the mind of many has been corrupted with sin and abominations. Know that every sin starts from the thoughts and thoughts are processed from the mind. Whatever information your sense organs gather for you will be processed in the mind. Satan is using garbage and sinful information to bombard the minds of people to corrupt them. Be conscious of the information that your sense organs gather in order to keep your mind clear of corruption.

**OBSTACLES:** There are lots of obstacles that Satan and his fallen angels throw at people to engage them in daily battle. Some of these obstacles include loneliness, laziness, traditional or cultural influence, difficulties, sickness and disease, ego, etc. Obstacles often arise when one wants to progress in life. Since majority of people wants to progress in life, then it is common to see many people around the world faced with challenges in their lives whether they have relationship with God or not.

In warfare, it is useful to have the knowledge of the enemy's arsenal as this will help you prepare your attack and defense better. Having discussed the six most used weapons of Satan, hopefully, you can avoid the pitfalls in your ongoing spiritual warfare. Remember that Satan is a defeated enemy and you need to keep winning the battles against him. Remember also that the grand war is for your soul to earn eternity with God of Heaven.

#### Questions

1. List only the 6 most widely used weapons of Satan
2. What can we do about anxiety?



## Chapter 4

### Weapons for Spiritual Warfare

Human beings have discovered and manufactured different kinds of weapons, sophisticated weapons. During the final stage of world war II, when the United States dropped nuclear weapons on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6 and 9, 1945 respectively. This event made popular weapons of mass destruction whereby more countries show interest in nukes. Mankind advancement in physical warfare has led to the manufacturing of fighter jets, warships, sophisticated fire arms, nuclear bombs, and chemical weapons among other deadly weapons. If man has successfully uncovered varieties of warfare weapons, have you ever imagined the weapons of the Almighty God who is the Supreme Creator?

Needful to say that everything that God created could be transformed into His weapon. If you consider carefully the deliverance of Israelites from the Egyptians, you will know how God used nature as weapon to fight against the Egyptians despite their chariot and being the then world power. Spiritual warfare weapons for Christian are not physical but are invincible and the processes are misery. There are numerous spiritual weapons for Christians but we shall discuss six important weapons

(1). PRAISE AND WORSHIP: In spiritual warfare, you are supposed to engage the enemy but when you use the weapon of praise and worship, God will engage your enemies for you. If you carefully read the book of 2Chronicles chapter 20, you will realize how three nations gathered against Jehoshaphat. In verse 3 of 2Chronicles 20, the Holy Bible says Jehoshaphat was afraid and set himself to seek God. In verse 21 Jehoshaphat appointed singers unto God that they should praise Him in the beauty of His holiness. Can you imagine praise singers going ahead of an army and being the first in battle formation line against the enemy? It happened that as they were praising God in verse 22, God set ambush against their enemies. The enemies further helped to destroy one another because God is fighting for Judah. That is what praise can do. It moves God to fight one's battle

Consider also another incident in the Holy Bible. Paul and Silas were arrested, beaten and locked up in the prison. At midnight, the duo prayed to God and later resorted to praising God. They praised God in the prison so much that God was moved and something happened. There was a sudden earthquake so that the foundations of the prison were shaken and immediately all the prison doors were opened and everyone's band was loosed. Read this event in Acts 16:25-26. Simply because Paul and Silas sang praises aloud to God in the prison, God moved to fight their battle and that event led to their release from the prison.

Your praise and worship can also set you free from chains and shackles of the enemy and out of the spiritual prison. And like in the case of Jehoshaphat, God can fight your spiritual warfare for you if only you will praise Him. Praise and worship is a potent spiritual weapon. This is why David was called a man after God's heart. God fought many battles for David because of his continuous praise to God.

(2). FAITH: The book of Hebrew 11:1 defines faith. In the same Hebrew 11:6, the Holy Bible reiterates that without faith, no one can please God. It also mentions **patience** in faith i.e. to diligently seek God. Faith is a very powerful weapon in spiritual warfare. It is a fundamental weapon because without faith how can you pray to or seek God? In Matthew 17:20, Jesus said if you have faith as little as the grain of mustard, you shall move mountain and nothing shall be impossible for you. You need strong faith in spiritual warfare; a belief system that when you fast and pray that God will answer. Faith is what fuels your prayer and **other spiritual activities**.

Do you believe in God? Do you believe in spiritual warfare, prayer and fasting, the word of God? Faith is built on your belief system. The foundation of Christian faith is Jesus. Jesus is the author and the finisher of our faith. Read Hebrew 12:2. Without faith, your spiritual warfare is a lost war. God wants you to believe in Him that He is able to help you through your life challenges and you will need to build your faith on this. However, one thing is certain that Satan the enemy will test your faith and will want you to doubt. Know that doubt is a weapon of Satan and faith is your spiritual weapon from God. You need to remain faithful in God even if things are going from bad to worse; better days are coming your way. Believe! Have faith!

#### Questions

1. How is praise and worship a spiritual weapon?
2. How is faith a spiritual weapon?

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(3). EVANGELISM: This is the most aggressive weapon against Satan. Satan himself will be your enemy but alas, Jesus himself will be beside you. Read Matthew 28:20. By evangelism, you are invading Satan's territory and breaking out souls from hell into the kingdom of God. Evangelism is one of the missions of Jesus Christ on earth. The assignment he gave to his disciples is evangelism.

Earlier in this book, we discussed Ephesians 6:15 which states that, "your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace" which we interpreted to be evangelism. It is part of the armor of God which is a potential weapon of spiritual warfare. Recall that we also discussed that the long-term war is for the soul i.e. whether your soul earn eternal life with God or not. Dragging souls to hell fire is the ultimate objective of Satan. Those who engage in evangelism are launching counter-attack on Satan by forcing out souls from his grip.

Evangelism is what genuine Christians must do. It is popularly referred to as the great commission of Jesus Christ to his disciples. Jesus in his might will be with you if you do evangelism; you have his word in Matthew 28:20. Evangelism is not only the work of Evangelists or the Ministers of God. Though it is a great tool for church growth, every true born-again Christian must do it. It is not necessary to lure souls to your church but to win them for Christ. You must learn how to do evangelism. ***Choose your gospel script and discover your good story for evangelism. Practice well at home on how to approach people to do personal witnessing. You may also write Christian tracts and distribute them freely or write short books like this one that you are reading in case you are poor in doing personal witnessing.***

Though evangelism is a weapon, you will need to incorporate other spiritual weapons with it such as prayer and fasting, the word of God and Holiness. Winning a soul into God's kingdom is not an easy task; in fact, you need God's help to do so.

Why should anyone do evangelism? Why looking for Satan's trouble? Why launching an offensive directly at Satan? Why attracting Satan's attention? The simple answer to these questions is for the love of God. If you love God and His Begotten Son, Jesus, you will do their will as in Matthew 28:19. And if you love your neighbors as yourself as Jesus has commanded, you will preach to them to repent from their sins. You will encourage Christian brethren to remain in faith. You will join Jesus to stop Satan from expanding his government at the expense of souls. The salvation of souls from destruction will matter to you, hence, the need for evangelism to break the influence of Satan. Evangelism is an aggressive offensive weapon against Satan and the reward from God is greater than all the rewards in life.

(4). FASTING AND PRAYER: This is a very potent weapon against the enemy's aggression. It is one of the widely used spiritual weapons in the world. Prayer is a misery in that you say the words, believe and in turn receive the answers. Prayer alone is a weapon but when it is done with fasting, it becomes greater and does wonderful things. The Holy Bible confirms the power of fasting and prayer in Matthew 17:21. The previous verse confirms that wonder cannot happen without fasting and prayer. In Pentecostal (evangelical) way, there are four types of fasting which are:

- a. Mid-day fasting whereby you will not eat or drink anything from mid-night (12:00a.m.) to mid-day (12:00p.m.) or any other hour before 6p.m. in the evening
- b. Full day fasting whereby you fast from midnight to 6:00 p.m. in the evening or any hour before another midnight.
- c. Marathon or dry fasting whereby you fast from midnight to midnight without eating or drinking anything depending on the number of days.
- d. White fasting whereby you break your fasting with fruits only or food without salt, sugar, oil and pepper. This type of fasting could be mid-day, full day or marathon.

There are also three commonest types of prayers which are

- a. Silent prayer whereby you offer this prayer in your heart
- b. Solemn prayer whereby your lips move during this prayer but your words are faint. Your body may vibrate.
- c. Fervent prayer whereby you may be screaming and vibrating.

In warfare prayer, fervent style of prayer is widely used especially with shouts of "In Jesus name, blood of Jesus, Holy Spirit, Holy Ghost Fire, wrath of God, etc."

Jesus was engaged in fervent prayer in Gethsemane before his crucifixion and the Holy Bible recorded that his sweat was like drops of blood. Read Luke 22:44.

If you want to thwart the oppression of the enemy in spiritual warfare, know that prayer and fasting to God is a very potent weapon.

Questions

1. List 3 commonest types of prayers
2. How is evangelism a spiritual weapon?

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(5). The Holy Bible (The word of God): After the forty days fasting and prayer of Jesus Christ in the wilderness, Satan appeared to Jesus to tempt him. It is important to note that Jesus did not engage Satan in prayer but he used the word of God to defeat Satan. The phrase “it has been written” was used to extract powerful verses from the Holy Bible. Prayer and fasting is like a gun and the word of God is the bullet. Inasmuch you cannot fire an empty gun, so is your prayer without golden verses from the Holy Bible light weight.

There is need for you to do research and stockpile weapon verses in the Holy Bible in your memory. Below are a few spiritual warfare verses extracted from the Holy Bible that can help you during prayer.

2Samuel 22:40	Matthew 6:13
Ephesians 6:18	Joshua 10:25
1Corinthians 16:13	2Timothy 2:3
Ephesians 6:13	2Timothy 3:12
2Corinthians 10:4	Psalm 91:1-4
2Chronicles 20:15	Psalm 18:39
Joshua 1:9	Psalm 44:5
Romans 8:31	Deuteronomy 3:22
Joshua 23:10	Isaiah 40:31
1John 3:8	Matthew 16:18
1Timothy 6:12	Revelation 12:11
Romans 12:21	John 8:32
1Corinthians 10:13	John 16:33
Deuteronomy 28:7	Matthew 18:18-19
John 10:10	Luke 10:19
2Thesalonians 3:3	Zechariah 4:6
1Corinthians 15:57	Romans 8:37
Isaiah 54:17	1Peter 5:8-9
2Corinthians 10:3-5	Numbers 23:23
1John 4:4	James 4:7

(6). HOLINESS (MORAL RESPONSIBILITY): A morally responsible society is like paradise on earth. But since Satan is the de-facto ruler of this world, the societies are morally decaying and it becomes a wild dream to have a morally responsible society. However, as a Christian, you must live a morally responsible life no matter how

immoral the society you live in has become. Like this book has mentioned earlier that a sinful Christian is a defeated Christian. Satan is constantly waging war against the Disciples of Christ (the Christians) and the door that Satan uses to access their life is sin. If you are engaging in spiritual warfare, you must pursue holiness. Yes! You can be holy. Read 1Peter 1:16. The Holy Bible says in 1Peter 1:15 that holiness starts even from our conversation. However, holiness is not required only in your conversation but in your overall conduct. Give no room to Satan to defeat you. Guard your life and seek perfection in spirit. The Holy Bible says, "Be perfect even as your which is in Heaven is perfect" Matthew 5:48.

Have you noticed what happens to a criminal who commits an offense? The criminal is arrested, tried and jailed. This is exactly what Satan does to sinful Christians. Satan is the father of sin and sinners, therefore, when Christian lives in sin, such Christian has indirectly invited Satan. And the Holy Bible describes Satan as a thief who comes to steal, kill and destroy. John 10:10. The ultimate that Satan will do to an immoral or sinful soul is to destroy it.

Pursuing a nature of holiness is one of the spiritual weapons in spiritual warfare. Be morally responsible! God does not hear the prayers of sinners. Read Isaiah 59:1-2. After reading this book, you need to memorize the six weapons for spiritual warfare which are:

1. Praise and Worship
2. Faith
3. Evangelism
4. Fasting and Prayer
5. The word of God
6. Holiness

#### Question

1. List any 5 weapons of spiritual warfare
2. List any 3 Biblical verse that you know which is good for spiritual warfare

## Chapter 5

### Deliverance

Deliverance is an action of being rescued or set free. Satan is real, demons are real and curses are real. Deliverance from the stronghold of Satan and demons is very important for the captive. The Holy Bible cites instances where people are possessed by evil spirits and in turn, they need deliverance from the grip of the evil spirit. For example, there was a woman of Canaan whose daughter was grievously vexed with the evil spirit in the book of Matthew 15:21-28. Another deliverance that Jesus did was in the life of a certain man of Gadarenes. A sore madman in the book of Luke 8:26-33.

Needful to say that demons have been around before you were born because they are also immortals waiting for their destruction on the last day. Do not be surprised that the number of demons can be more than the number of humans. The demons work for Satan and when they occupy one's life; it can be very difficult to cast them out. Especially when demons enter anyone's life through a curse, it can be very difficult to deliver the person from the stronghold of the demon. This is because the curse is the legal right the demons have to remain in the person's life. It is important for the curse to be broken first before the demons can be cast out.

Majority of the people in the world are under one curse or the other which give permission to the unseen demons to operate in their lives. There is a family that I know which suffers from untimely death. The family members get rich quick at their tender age but around forty years of age, they are ripe for sure death. This is true and that family has a curse that permits the unseen demon to kill them around that age. They need deliverance! There is another family that I know; the mother is separated from her husband. It also happened that her three daughters are separated from their respective husbands. Even their grandmother is a single mother separated from her husband. You can see an identical curse in their lives and they surely need deliverance to break the yoke of broken marriages.

There are different kinds of curses affecting the lives of people around the world. Such curses as poverty, barrenness, lack of marital partner, separation, illiteracy, hereditary sicknesses and diseases, bad luck, hate, disappointments, etc. The curse is peculiar to different families on earth depending on how the curse was casted upon the family. Once such curse is casted upon a family, all the persons from that family naturally share from the curse and the demon enforcing that curse will operate in the lives by force. Deliverance is inevitable.

Apart from biblical curses (e.g. Deuteronomy 28), curses are usually initiated by persons of spiritual authority. It could be initiated by witch, wizard, the occult,

prophet, imam, pastor, herbalist, conjurer, etc. Curse could also be self-inflicted through negative utterances against oneself. Non spiritual person can also cast a curse upon you if you offend the person and out of great grief the person pronounce curses upon you. You need deliverance if you are suffering from any kind of curse. The process of breaking a curse or casting out the invincible demons is a spiritual warfare that demands all seriousness and powerful spiritual authority in Jesus.

#### Questions

1. What is deliverance?
2. Discuss any family that is suffering from a curse which you know



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There is a particular village in Africa which is suffering from a curse. The curse is that no star shall come out of the village. Anyone from that village who strives to become a star usually dies a mysterious death. There are demons enforcing the curse so that no person from that village reaches stardom in their lifetime. A popular history in that village is how that curse was initiated. It was during the war era whereby a strong village will invade neighboring villages and annex their land. The King of this particular village invited a conjurer to his palace to help him with spiritual fortification for the village. The conjurer told the king and the chiefs that they need to visit the evil forest of the village to speak with spirits. When they got to the forest and conjured a spirit, the spirit appeared to them and asked the king what he wanted. The king said he wanted protection for his village so that no other king will annex his land and enslave his people. The spirit agreed to protect the village but said no star person shall emerge from the village and those who forcefully do so shall die a mysterious death. The spirit also said it must be worshipped yearly with a particular food. The king agreed and that placed the village under protection but with a curse. (This story is true, though non-Africans find it difficult to believe spiritual things). Anyone from that village who wants to greatly succeed or become a star needs a serious deliverance from the stronghold of demons.

Do you know the origin of the curse in your family, village, street or community?

There is another curse placed on a tribe called Yoruba in Nigeria. Let me tell you the story. At the death of Oyabi, the Are-Ona Kankanfo (the head of the army of Oyo Empire); Afonja, the founder of Ilorin in Nigeria demanded and was given the title of Are-Ona Kankanfo. The Alaafin of Oyo (King) Aole did not support Afonja's new position. The refusal of King Aole to recognize and accept Afonja as the new Kankanfo angered Afonja. In 1871, he (Afonja) sent an empty calabash to King Aole, which signifies that he no longer acknowledge the authority of King Aole. The King has no choice than to accept it and in traditional fashion committed suicide. Before the King died, he uttered his famous curses on both Afonja and Yorubaland.

From King Aole's palace forecourt, the king shot three arrows; one to the north, one to the south and one to the west saying "may curse be upon you for disloyalty and disobedience, so let your children disobey you. If you send them on errand, let them bring you no word again. To all these points I have shot my arrows you shall be carried as slaves. My curse will carry you to the sea and beyond as slaves. Slaves will become your masters". Then smashing the earth-ware dish he shouted "broken calabash can be mended but not a broken dish, so let my curse be irrevocable." Many scholars and historians believed that the curse seemed to take immediate effect and there had not been unity in Yorubaland since then.

(Excerpt from the “History of Yoruba” by Samuel Johnson)

Foundational curse can be from a family background, village, tribe, race; even a whole city can be under curse. Evil spirits enforce curses and operate in the lives of their victims. Do you think that you are suffering from a curse or demon? Let’s learn how to break a curse and receive deliverance through the weapons of spiritual warfare.

#### Question

1. Discuss any curse that you know (be it biblical or history)

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Curses can be broken and demons can be cast out. For deliverance to be effective, it starts with becoming a born again Christian. After becoming a born again Christian, you need to use potent spiritual weapons for the deliverance process. Firstly, you must break the curse using the power in the blood of Jesus. Then you need the combinations of the spiritual weapons we have discussed earlier. You must pray and destroy the curse completely before you can cast out the demon. The demons are very difficult adversaries, they do not want to leave the life of their host but they can be easily cast out after nullifying their legal right which is the curse.

The book of Matthew 12:29 states that “Or else, how can one enter into a strong man’s house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? And then he will spoil his house”

The stronghold is the curse and once it is broken (thanks for the blood of Jesus), the demons are strategically defeated.

Faith, holiness, fasting and prayer and powerful verses from the Holy Bible are weapons needed for deliverance. The Holy Bible says resist the devil and he will flee in James 4:7. Fervent prayer is the style of prayer needed in deliverance. If you read Matthew 17:14-21, you will realize that the disciples could not cast out the demon because of their unbelief (lack of faith). Jesus Christ further clarified that not only unbelief but lack of fasting and prayer also deprived the disciples. Let me reiterate that the four potent weapons for deliverance include faith, holiness, powerful verses from the Holy Bible and fervent prayer with fasting.

It is important to mention self-deliverance. Though there are self-deliverance prayers, in some cases, one needs someone with higher spiritual authority to pray fervently for one’s deliverance. Remember in Matthew 17:14-21 that the demon which the disciples could not cast out was easily casted out by Jesus because of his authority. So you might need someone with higher spiritual authority than yours to perform your deliverance process. Note that it is a spiritual warfare.

Needful to say, the person being delivered must live a spiritually responsible life in order not to attract seven times of what he or she was suffering. The Holy Bible is clear about this; even God of Heaven said He will inflict seven times suffering upon backsliders in four verses in the book of Leviticus 26:18, 21, 24 and 28. Read also Matthew 12:43-45. Therefore, when the devil is cast out, the delivered person must not return to sin so that seven times the demons will not return to his or her life. This is why Holiness (moral responsibility) is part of the spiritual weapons for deliverance.

Demons are like goat; they are very stubborn and always want to return to their former territory.

A commonest way that demon enter the life of people since ages past is through unholy spiritual fellowship and idolatry. By celebrating idol festivals with idol worshippers or having a carved image at home that you kneel before (not even the image of Jesus or Virgin Mary). By eating foods dedicated to Indian or African gods or unholy meditation or fellowship with Budha. By doing any of these, you have come in contact with unholy spirit which is unacceptable unto God of Heaven.

Read Deuteronomy 7:5-26

Christians must be very careful because idolatry is very common in the world today even in the church where church members bow to, kneel down before and pray to carved images. Budha meditation and enchantment is becoming popular by the day. The most disappointing part is idolatry in the church where you take the Holy Sacrament. The Holy Bible refers to these materials (photographs, carved images, paintings, etc.) as accursed and urged us not to touch or fellowship with them. Idol worshipping directly or indirectly has brought curse upon many souls on earth.

Touching or fellowshiping with the accursed things can bring one under a curse for which the person needs a deliverance from a living evangelical (Pentecostal) church. Read Deuteronomy 27:15, Leviticus 26:30, 2Kings 18:3-4, Leviticus 26:1, Hosea 4:6

I conclude that any deliverance whereby the delivered return to sin is a waste because seven times the curse will return. It is my opinion therefore, that deliverance is for born again Christian.

#### Questions

1. List the four best spiritual weapons for performing deliverance
2. Is it biblical to bow to, kneel before or pray to carved images or photographs including that of Jesus and Virgin Mary?

## Chapter 6

### Kingdom War and Battle for the Soul

In the spiritual realm, there are only two kingdoms and nobody can be in the middle. You are either in the kingdom of light (God's) or kingdom of darkness (Satan's). Spiritual warfare has for a very longtime been ongoing. If you read the book of Isaiah 14:11-15, you will realize how Satan was brought low to hell because of his evil ambition to become God Almighty. Satan was then cast out of the light of God into darkness.

Now, let's remind ourselves that since the fall of man into the trap of Satan and thereby into sin. Everyone born into this world is born naturally into sin and perhaps, into the kingdom of darkness through the sin of Adam and Eve. If you want to know about the sin of Adam and Eve which led to the fall of man from the glory of God into darkness, read Genesis 3:1-6. (If you read the entire Genesis chapter 3, there you will find the curses upon mankind). The good news is that since Jesus the Messiah has been crucified and after his resurrection, we have the grace to switch from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light as it is written in the book of 1Peter 2:9.

The spiritual clash in the spiritual realm today is as a result of continuous war between the two kingdoms. This can possibly be referred to as supremacy war. The harsh realities are visible in our real world today. Human beings have been employed as soldiers in the **spiritual kingdom war**. You find the church launching attacks on witches, wizards, spiritual strongmen, etc. The kingdom of darkness also responds by attacking the Christians with different life challenges in areas of health, finances, barrenness, security, marriage or delay in marriage, etc. As human beings, taking sides in the spiritual **kingdom war** is inevitable. Either you remain in the natural state of sin which is rebellious to God or you accept the grace of Jesus Christ into the kingdom of light (God's). You should know that Satan wants to expand his kingdom of darkness and rule everything that he can, including your life and destiny. Satan battles daily to influence the lives of people and frustrate them out of the kingdom of God. Satan has declared full scale war and you are the object he is seeking to destroy.

The battle is not only for the kingdom but also for the soul of mankind.

Man is tripartite as it is written in 1Thessalonians 5:23. The soul is who we really are and the soul is what will be cast into lake of fire or rescued into the kingdom of light for eternity. Everyone has the opportunity to rescue their soul through Jesus Christ while they are still alive. There is need to realize that while Satan is contending with

the kingdom of God, he also targets to destroy as many souls as he can. Jesus from the kingdom of light is doing what is contrary to Satan's mission which is the salvation of souls. Read John 10:10.

As a living soul, you are a potential object of attack from the kingdom of darkness. If you do not think that you are engaged in spiritual warfare, it could be because you are not experiencing any attacks by the enemy. There are several reasons why this might be so but to mention one; you might not recognize what an attack of Satan the head enemy looks or feels like because it is a spiritual thing.

Nevertheless, there is a good side to spiritual attack on our soul; it is to make us strong. Our God is strong and He wants you to be strong. The Holy Bible says be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might in Ephesians 6:10

In the battle for the soul between the two kingdoms, you need to preserve your soul for God by yielding completely to Jesus the Messiah. And if you hear such word as selling or giving one's soul to Satan, it is for real; avoid it.

#### Questions

1. What led to the fall of Satan?
2. Whose grace brought mankind to the light of God?

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As brain is to your body, so is your mind to your soul. Your mind is the primary battlefield where most spiritual struggles start from. Satan is after your soul and he will start by bombarding your mind through your senses. He wants to get you at all cost. He attacks people commonly on two fronts; internally and externally. The external attacks are environmental people and activities around you. The internal attack is by influencing your mind through your sense organs. Through your mind, Satan can reach to your awareness with lies or half-truths. In most times, the lies that Satan tells us are half-truths; they seem so true and convincing that our natural self may take it for the truth. It is often difficult to discern these are just lies of the enemy. Half-truth is what Satan used to deceive Adam and Eve. Half-truth is what is common in many religion today especially in churches that are into mild idol worshipping. Half-truth is what Satan will use to derail your mind so as to derail you from the path of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Battle for the soul! Simply put, Satan and Jesus are battling for your soul but the decision on who to follow lies with you. You are an object of choice; you have power over your choice. Whichever side you choose is full of struggle because the spiritual warfare is still ongoing. People are deceived into Satan's kingdom with life that glitters until they join the satanic kingdom before they will discover that it is full of struggles. Jesus is truthful about following him that you will face tribulation as in John 16:33. Yes there will be challenges, obstacles, frustration and even rejection because once you have chosen Jesus; you are no longer part of this system of things in this world so expect them to treat you as an outcast. The book of John 15: 18-21 says "If the world hates you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye are of the world, the world will love is own: but because ye are not of the world, but because I have chosen you out of the world, therefore, the world hated you. Remember the word that I said unto you, the servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not Him that sent me."

In the battle for your soul, Satan will attack you on all sides but you have to take up the necessary spiritual weapons to fight back and he (Satan) will flee. Read James 4:7. You have the responsibility to preserve your soul. Jesus Christ has done his part for your soul; even God Almighty has done His part for your salvation. The ball is left in your court. Always remember that Satan wants to destroy your soul. He does not want you to earn eternal life with God. He is bombarding people with difficulties, anxieties, worries, depression, frustration, etc. However deep Satan might have entered your life is how you have allowed him because he is a defeated enemy. The Holy Bible says resist him.

Jesus Christ shed his blood on the cross of Calvary. Do you know why? It is because blood is used for sin cleansing. Do you remember in the Old Testament practice where animal blood was used by the Israelites for the remission of their sin? The truth is that the blood of the animals cannot completely remove their sin but it only covers it. God needs a pure and sinless blood; one sacrifice that can remove all sins and reconciles human being and God. Read John 3:16.

In the battle for the soul, Satan and Jesus Christ want the souls of everyone alive on earth, including yours. Who do you want to surrender your soul to? Jesus Christ or Satan?

#### Questions

1. Name the two spirits that are battling for the soul
2. Why did Jesus shed his blood?



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Kingdom war! Satan knows that his end is near which is the reason for his great rage. Honestly, things will move from bad to worse until Jesus Christ shall return to earth because Satan who is the de-facto ruler of this world knows that his end is near. He is furiously fighting and aiming to destroy as many souls as possible. Overthrowing a sitting government is not going to be easy. Satan and his hosts are not willing to let go of their control over the earth. As the day of Christ's return draws nearer we will see the desperation of the kingdom of darkness. The kingdoms of darkness are going to spring their activities through institutional or organized system, even unholy churches. Satan is going to work through big governments on earth to control people away from the path of God.

Towards the end of spiritual kingdom war, the government of earth will be more integrated with a globalist agenda to control all aspects of life of the people including their healthcare, banking, travel, trade, etc. The globalist agenda is just a preparation for the Antichrist government and the persecution of those who are on God's side. The globalist agenda is going to be very aggressive and a totalitarian regime across the earth. Powerful rulers shall emerge in the global power blocs. Internet and technology shall play major role in the global government. The term Antichrist originated from Apostle John in his first and second Epistles. This term refers to a government that will wage war against everything of Jesus Christ and persecute Christ's disciples. The books of Daniel and Revelation both describe the Antichrist military prowess. Revelation chapter 13 says the Antichrist will be "permitted to wage war on God's people" and "given power to extend his authority over every tribe and people" Revelation 13 also states bluntly that the Antichrist will succeed in conquering God's people, at least for a time.

The Antichrist government is going to control money (economy) and power (military) in all nations of the world strategically. During the reign of these satanic governments, it is going to be hard times for the children of God but know that the end is near. In fact, the Antichrist will compel people to be marked with an inscription on their hands or foreheads and only those with this mark will be buying or selling. Read Revelation 13:16-18. The mark is going to come to earth in form of technology; it could be chip or biometric device. It will carry the famous mark of the beast which is six hundred six score and six (666).

Many nations on earth will receive this global or world order in their local governance, in turn; everyone on earth will be faced with this challenge. God of Heaven revealed to Daniel in the book of Daniel 2:44 that in the days of these Antichrist governments shall God of Heaven set up a godly government which shall never be destroyed. This godly government shall break in pieces and consume all the

Antichrist governments and the godly government shall stand forever. (This is perceived to be the New Jerusalem coming down from Heaven in Revelation 21:1-2. Jesus is the head of this new godly government that will destroy the satanic governments on earth. Read Revelation 19:11-16)

As you can see that the trend of governments and activities of people around the world has spiritual side. Do not be discouraged in your faith in God; take your stand with Him and His Christ. God will fulfill His promise in Revelation 21:7 for the winners. You must strive to overcome in your spiritual warfare especially for your soul. ***Your contribution towards the kingdom war is evangelism.*** The battle for your soul also requires you to work towards eternal life through the grace of Jesus Christ. Revelation 21:8 is for those who lose the battle for their soul but the overcomers shall earn Revelation 21:7. Come out of the worldly things even though you might face persecution. Preservation of your soul for eternal life should matter to you most in this life. Kindly come out of worldliness. Read 2Corinthians 6:17 and Revelation 18:4

#### Questions

1. Explain how internet and technology will play major role in global governance
2. What is the number of the beast?

#### ALTAR CALL

Two powerful spirits are battling for every soul on earth; ***Jesus Christ and Satan***. To earn eternal life with God, you need to surrender your life to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. The journey of the salvation of your soul can start today. All you need do is to make some pronouncement. There is no repentance after death and death can happen to anyone at any time. After death, it is judgment. Know that it is not everyone that will live long to the last day of this earth. You have read this book and perhaps, you want to start the journey to the salvation of your soul. You want Jesus to be your new spiritual master. You want to bring your life under the government of the Almighty God through Jesus or rededicate your life to God. It is easy no matter your religion and no ritual is required. Kneel down and make these declarations in prayer mood

#### ***Lord Jesus Christ***

***I am a sinner and have been touched by your word  
I believe that God did send you with the gospel to save the world  
I believe you as the Messiah  
I pray in your name that God should forgive me of my sins  
Make me a new person in character and spirit  
Today I have made a decision to believe in you Jesus  
Please come into my life and be my spiritual master  
Help me to make it to the Paradise of God  
I pray this prayer to God in Jesus name, Amen.***

Congratulations to you. Your declarations are powerful and your prayer has been answered. One more step is for you to live a disciplined and responsible life. To be morally responsible is very important and watch your dreams when you sleep because a lot of people who say this prayer receive powerful revelation from God in their dreams. You may send me an email at [adelusidickson@gmail.com](mailto:adelusidickson@gmail.com). Also, if you would like to print this book for free distribution; kindly email me. Remember that Evangelism is your contribution to the spiritual kingdom war. God bless you. Shalom!

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